



### **BARTLETT EARTH STATION** (*Voluntary Cleanup Program Site*)

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation • Division of Spill Prevention and Response

#### **Site Description**

Bartlett Earth Station is located approximately 5 miles north of Talkeetna, in the foothills of the Bartlett Hills. Built in 1969, the Bartlett Earth Station has been owned by RCA Alaska Communications, Inc., and Pacific Telecom, Inc. It is currently owned by AT&T Alascom.

On-site there are four buildings, one 30-meter satellite dish, and one 15-meter satellite dish. The buildings consist of an emergency generator building, a main electronic control building, a shop, and a storage shed.

#### **Threats and Contaminants**

Approximately 80 cubic yards of petroleum contamination was found in an area formerly used for drum storage and at the dry well.

#### **Public Health and Environmental Concerns**

The Alaska Hazards Ranking Model (AHRM) ranks this site as a low priority. Petroleum hydrocarbon levels exceed DEC's risk-based levels for the protection of both humans and groundwater. Ecological receptors could also be adversely impacted. The site is being cleaned up through DEC's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), with minimal DEC oversight.

Cleanup levels for petroleum hydrocarbons have been set at the Matrix Cleanup Level B, or 200 mg/kg for diesel range organics.

#### **Response Actions**

- In 1991, four (4) underground storage tanks were removed and two (2) were replaced with new tanks. These actions were overseen by DEC's Storage Tank Program.

- In 1993, the landfill was excavated in order to retrieve electronic components containing beryllium oxide that were
- disposed of there. The components were properly disposed of off-site.
- In 1995, a Phase I site characterization was performed as part of AT&T Alascom's due diligence during the purchase of Alascom.
- A Phase II site characterization was performed investigating the septic leach field, maintenance shop dry well, electronic parts landfill, drum storage area, and an abandoned water well. Petroleum hydrocarbon contamination was found at the drum storage area. No other contaminants of concern were found at any of the areas of investigation.
- Due to the small volume of contamination and low priority ranking on the AHRM, AT&T applied to DEC's Voluntary Cleanup Program and was accepted on June 23, 1998.

#### **Current Status**

- At the drum storage area, approximately 4.5 cubic yards of soil was stockpiled on a liner and an additional 25 cubic yards of contaminated soil remained in the ground. All the contaminated soil was excavated and sent to a soil thermal treatment facility in Fairbanks.
- Approximately 50 cubic yards of petroleum contaminated soil was removed from the dry well area. The excavated

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soil was sent to a soil thermal treatment facility in Fairbanks.

- AT&T Alascom will be submitting a final Cleanup Action Report for DEC approval in winter 2000.